

CNA Steering Committee

Dec. 8, 2004, Taqueria Los Altos

SC ATTENDING: (8, Quorum) Jennifer Elsner, Alexandria Garcia, Maddie Kadas, Kyle King, Rebecca Kohout, Jack Newman, Randall Terrell [presiding], Dave Westenbarger

SC NOT ATTENDING (5): Scott Chasteen, Peter Ketter, Maxwell McDaniel, Charlie Roadman, Jennifer Smith

OTHERS Gordon Bennett, Girard Kinney. Lex Dale Owens, Stefan Schuster

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MOTION: Appropriate \$450 to install 14 more Neighborhood Watch signs (see Item 5)

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1. TREASURY (Alex)

Current balance = \$6060.

2. ART FAIR (Maddie) - Dec 11 (11-5, Maplewood School)

< <http://www.cherrywoodartfair.org/> >. Volunteers are still needed. This is a huge affair. You'll be loved. Contact: KELLI "we'll give you a donut" MILES (Volunteer Coordinator), 474-7769, <kdeslattem@yahoo.com> Hundreds visited last year. It's now on Austin's "circuit" of holiday fairs, and well-advertised around town. Music. Food. Unique gifts. Silent auction (including objets d'art) to benefit the School.

3. ASBURY INITIATIVE (Gordon)

Asbury's pastor and congregation are interested exploring ways to become more of a community-centered church as much as CNA is interested in helping this happen. We will convene a joint idea-generating forum early in the New Year. More to follow...

< http://asnic.utexas.edu/~bennett/___cwd/Asbury-initiative.pdf >

4. TRANSPORTATION (Stefan)

a. Traffic Calming Plan. The draft is finished. It will be displayed at the Art Fair Saturday. After a final revision after looking at comments received, the City will send out a mail ballot in January. If it passes, bids will be solicited and as many items as the budget will allow will be contracted by summer. Sorry speeders!

b. Manor Road. Some City staff think Manor Rd should be upgraded to have more capacity, not be downgraded from arterial to neighborhood street (as Council voted to do). CAMPO has yet to vote. By rumor, these staff suggest because our Traffic Calming Plan omits Manor Rd (as we instructed to do by other staff), this is reason to revoke the downgrade. We had thought this battle had been won, but there might be another skirmish. TBC...

c. There is a chance IH35 might yet be lowered below grade in central Austin and downtown. Austin District Engineer Bob Deigh told the Downtown Alliance he favors persisting with this upgrade, even while other IH35 upgrades have been put on hold until the new eastside SH130 tollway begins to turn a profit (a decade away, at least)... TBC...

5. SAFETY (Lex)

14 more Neighborhood Watch signs would complete installations around the perimeter of the neighborhood. These last ones will be the hardest, require digging holes and cementing in poles (the first ones were on existing poles, including telephone poles). Block Watch groups purchase their own for interior blocks. A bulk order will be made soon for a quantity discount. Watch for the announcement, or call Lex at 750-8296. Every entry to Cherrywood will have a Watch sign. It will look as if the whole area is cooperating.

6. PLANNING & ZONING (Girard)

Several problem properties, at different stages of resolution, were discussed. The Steering Committee is crafting some criteria for CNA to use in deciding when to intervene. Expect to see a posting on the Web after Christmas, and a presentation to the next Member meeting (FOURTH Wed in Jan only, 1/26; THIRD Wed in April, July, and Oct).

7. PARKS (Girard)

a. Patterson Park. The Friends have been awarded a \$99,250 grant from Texas Parks & Wildlife after all. They were not successful at first, but something changed. This grant will build a trail around the whole park. Congrats, FoPP! Step by step, very nice improvements are coming.

b. Willowbrook Reach. The creek suffers erosion in heavy rains. Volunteers (FoWR?) want to plant trees with root structure to help. CNA might support the effort when a proposal arrives. Tree planting close to water's edge could proceed in advance of the Reach Plan, which is still being devised.

c. Concordia "Rest" (as its guardian angel calls it). No official name made its way through the democratic process. The big cedar is rotted and fell down in a recent storm. No motion was made to buy a new one, but this too will follow when a proposal arrives. Mike "I plant 'em, you water 'em) Damal will be asked to plant a replacement if someone across the street volunteers to water the sapling.

d. Cherrywood Green. The City has agreed to install a water tap for irrigation, and a "T" connection for a drinking fountain. This Friends (FoCG?) will soon sign a formal agreement spelling out how much water the City will supply free, and who pay for other improvements.

This is a wonderful achievement, and is testimony to the respect the City has for our Association, and for all the volunteer activity that occurs around it -- the grant for the Patterson trail; the \$\$ quarter-of-a-million for Traffic Calming; now the water for the Green; and soon the City might pay for razing a moldy, derelict house with transients squatting in it.

[End]